

(7)	Horns, girth, right horn	...	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	ins.
(8)	" " left "	...	20	"
(9)	Length of head and body	...	8 ft.	2 ins.
(10)	" tail (including 5 inches tuft)	...	2	" 11 "
(11)	Height at shoulder	...	4	" 9 "
(12)	" of body only at shoulder	...	3	" 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
(13)	Girth behind shoulder	...	9	" 11 "
(14)	Girth of neck, 1 ft. from horns	...	5	" 5 "
(15)	" 2 "	...	7	" 0 "
(16)	" round centre of face	...	2	" 7 "
(17)	Length of ear	...		9 "
(18)	Length of hind foot (to hock)	...	1	" 10 "
(19)	" " (hoof)	...		4 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
(20)	" fore foot (hoof)	...		5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
(21)	Circumference round fore foot (hoof)	...	1	" 5 "
(22)	Circumference round hind foot (hoof)	...	1	" 3 "
(23)	Circumference round shin	...		9 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

Measurements of length and height were taken in a straight line or between uprights. This bull had, practically speaking, no dewlap.

ROUNDURA GROUP,  
GINIGATHENA,  
CEYLON,  
May 20, 1929.

I. L. CAMERON.

## XV.—THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE MOUSE-DEER (*MOSCHIOLA MEMINNA*)

(With a map)

The records of the occurrence of the Mouse Deer (*Moschiola meminna*) in Upper India are so vague and contradictory that I have made an effort to arrive at a more accurate knowledge of their distribution.

Hodgson includes this animal in his list of Nepal mammals, and Blyth refers to a Nepalese specimen in his catalogue; but these notes have never since been confirmed, and, as a result of my present investigation, appear to be inaccurate. I can obtain no authentic record of a single specimen ever having been obtained anywhere in the United Provinces, and it seems very unlikely that there should be such a big gap in their distribution as that between the north of the Central Provinces and Nepal.

Lt.-Col. Stockley in his recent book *Big Game Shooting in the Indian Empire* states on page 19, 'A morning walk in the Siwaliks may produce anything from a tiger to a mouse deer.' The Siwaliks are the outer range of low hills which form the boundary between the great Himalayan Range and the Gangetic Plain of the United Provinces. I have lived in the forests of this

tract for many years and I am in intimate touch with other Forest Officers. I have also access to the Forest Records of animals which have been shot for many years past, and I am in a position to make the definite statement that no mouse deer has been recorded as shot for many years by anyone, and no Forest Officer—and Forest Officers live in their jungles for the greater part of the year—believes that mouse-deer exist in the Siwaliks. I therefore conclude that this statement by Col. Stockley must be a slip of the pen.

Again the same author in the same book, page 165, gives the distribution of mouse deer as 'Peninsular India as far north as Khandesh, southern United Provinces, and Orissa.' Firstly, it is to be noted that the Siwaliks are in the northern United Provinces and are not mentioned here, so that Col. Stockley's statements on pages 165 and 19 do not agree. Then as regards the southern United Provinces. The forests in the south of the United Provinces occur in the south-west near Jhansi and Banda (Bandelkhand) and in the south-east at Mirzapur. With regard to Bandelkhand, the two Forest Officers in the United Provinces (Messrs. Whitehead and Benskin, both now Conservators) with the greatest experience of Bandelkhand—an experience extending over many years—assure me that mouse deer are quite unknown there. The jungle tribes have no name for them, and there are no records of any having been shot in the whole of Bandelkhand. As regards the Mirzapur forests, there was a suspicion that the species might occur in the Dudhi forests at the very south of the Province, so I asked Mr. Bhattia, the Divisional Forest Officer of Mirzapur, to make a thorough enquiry for me. This he very kindly did, with the result that mouse deer are reported not to occur anywhere in Mirzapur District, and to be quite unknown to the jungle tribes living there.

In these circumstances, there appears to be considerable doubt as to the existence of mouse deer anywhere in the United Provinces, and I would ask Col. Stockley to publish his evidence for stating that they do occur there.

As regards areas adjacent to the United Provinces, the Political Agents of Rewah State, Gwalior, and Bhopal are of the opinion that the species does not occur in their respective states. The most northerly places where the animal is definitely known to occur are the Mandla and Hoshangabad forests of the Central Provinces and Palamau in Bihar, all of which are south of latitude  $24^{\circ}$ . I therefore arrive at the conclusion that  $24^{\circ}$  latitude is approximately the northern limit of this species, and I would ask all readers of the *Journal* who may be interested in the subject to send in any records they may have which may confirm or contradict this conclusion. I add a rough sketch map of the United Provinces and environs to make the position clearer.

In conclusion I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all the Political Agents and Forest Officers who have so kindly supplied me with material for this investigation.

LANSLOWNE,  
April 21, 1929.

F. W. CHAMPION,  
Indian Forest Service.